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ABSTRACT

The new foundations related to the schooling initiatives targeting Mexican Americans in the United States are the focus of this paper. The issues that bring together research, theory and educational policy and practice are outlined. Within the last few decades, research and practice in culture and education have shifted from a focus on "Americanization" and educational equity to multicultural education and the culturally relevant education of children of diverse groups. Educational demographics make it clear that the students who will fill our schools in the years to come will be increasingly diverse. Research has documented some educationally effective practices for teaching Mexican American students, and the insights provided by these studies, especially in the areas of communication and the structuring of instruction, must be applied to the education of Mexican American and other language minority students. The development of English-language schools, flexible approaches, high expectations, and the elimination of stereotyping must characterize the education of Mexican American children. (Contains 106 references.) (SLD)

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